



ALERT NO. 2005A-09

October 26, 2004

## Modified United States Military ID CARD (CAC)

### Previous version CAC



Standard PDF 417 barcode with standard STOP pattern.

### October 2004 CAC



Standard PDF 417 barcode with TRUNCATED STOP pattern.

Forensic Document Lab (FDL) Document Intelligence Alert 2001 A-12 announced the introduction of the new Department of Defense (DoD) Identification Card known as the Common Access Card (CAC). Alert 2001 A-48 displayed the Optically Variable Device (OVD) and other changes that were added to the CAC. Alert 2004 A-25 announced that the term "Foreign National" was replaced with the term "Civilian Affiliate," and the term "Foreign Military" was replaced with the term "Military Affiliate."

The October 2004 release of the Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) will implement the following changes:

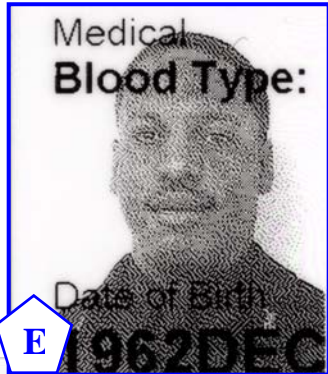
1. Military CACs produced prior to October 2004 have status fields (figure A) with the following information:

- Active Duty with the status field labeled as "Active Duty;"
- Selected Reserve with the status field labeled as "Reserve;" and
- National Guard with the status field labeled as "Guard."

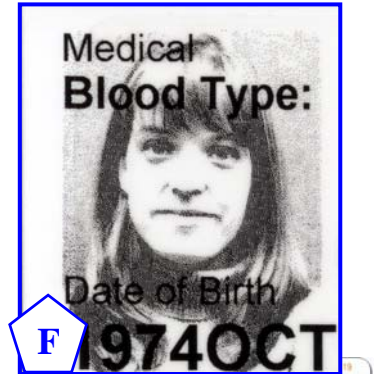
Beginning in October 2004, the new CACs will not have a status field for all military (figure B). The status field for the military was established to help support the control of the Commissary Privilege Card (CPC) between Active Duty, Selected Reserve and National Guard. However, on 24 November 2003 the President signed the National Defense Authorization Act for 2004, which allowed all Selected Reserve, National Guard Members and their dependents to receive unlimited commissary privileges. Previously issued CACs containing the status field will remain valid until October 2007 or until the card expires, whichever comes first.

2. The standard PDF 417 barcodes have start/stop patterns (end bars) at both ends (figure C). The new CACs will have the Compact PDF 417 barcode, which will have a truncated stop pattern on the bottom of the barcode (figure D). By truncating the bottom stop characters, the PDF 417 barcode was enhanced to improve information readability by the scanner.

3. There are three different printers deployed in the RAPIDS sites (figure E). Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) has begun deploying new reverse transfer printers with 600 dpi, which will affect the print quality of the cards printed with this printer (figure F). The CACs printed on the new printers with 600 dpi will visibly show a higher quality of print.



Print quality of previously used printers



Print quality of reverse transfer

**PROHIBITION ON COPYING OR DISTRIBUTING SAMPLE CARDS:** Title 15, United States Code, section 701 prohibits photographing or otherwise reproducing or possessing departmental identification cards in an unauthorized manner, under penalty of fine or imprisonment or both. Consequently, for purposes related to communication with user communities regarding the new cards within the Department, the CAC shall not be posted or shown on web sites, or shown actual size, it will always be shown with "sample" on it, and the likenesses shown within this document will be used to maximum extent possible.

